

# Passover

Passover is a Jewish festival. Jews celebrate the Feast of Passover to remember how Moses led his people from Egypt.

## The Passover Story

Many years ago, Moses' people were slaves. God didn't like this and wanted them to be free. He told Moses to speak to the King of Egypt (Pharaoh) to ask if they could go free. The Pharaoh refused. Moses warned him that God would not be happy.

Moses was right. God was angry and He sent ten plagues as a punishment.

### Blood

First of all, God turned Egypt's main river into blood. The fish all died but, still, the Pharaoh did not free Moses' people.

### Frogs

Then God sent a plague of frogs. Still, the Pharaoh did not free Moses' people.

### Lice

God then turned all the country's dust into itchy, crawling lice.

### Flies

The next plague was a swarm of flies. They filled people's homes and covered their food.

### Livestock

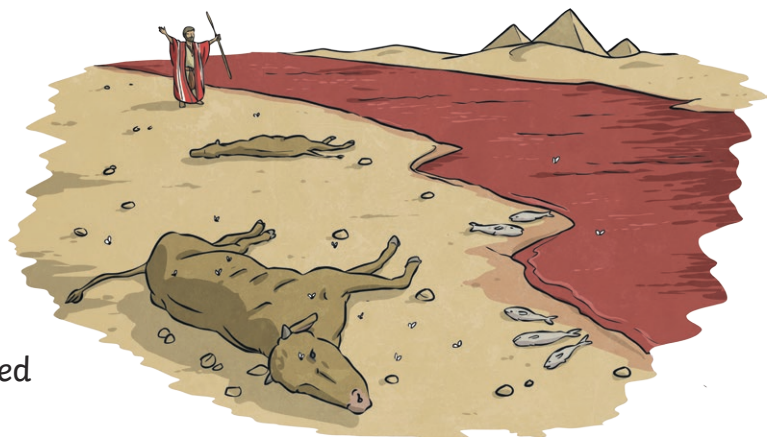
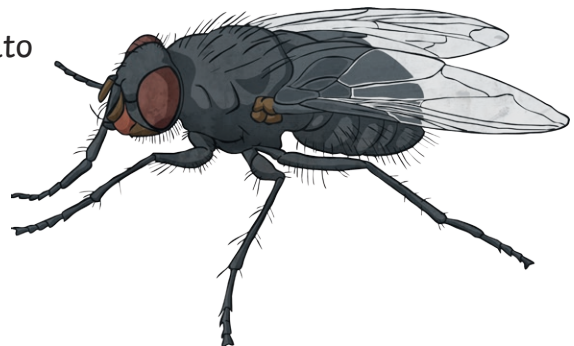
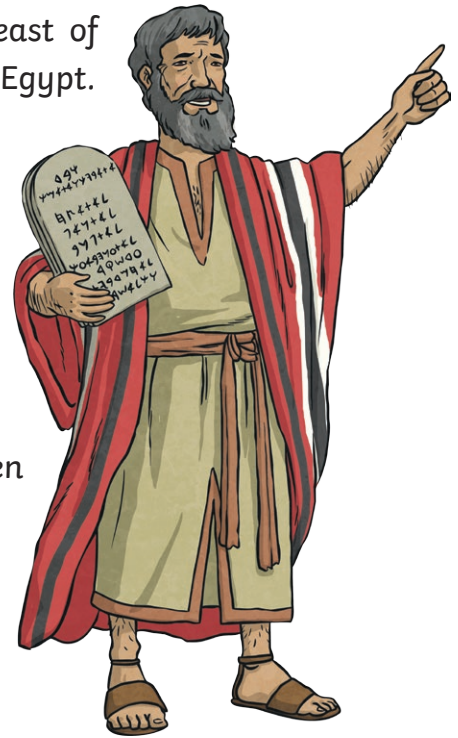
This plague killed all the Egyptians' animals.

### Boils

Then people grew nasty boils (like painful spots) on their bodies.

### Hail

God sent the worst hailstorm ever to hit Egypt. It destroyed most of the country's crops.



**Locusts**

Because the Pharaoh had still not done as God asked, He sent a swarm of locusts. Any crops left standing after the hailstorm were eaten by the hungry insects.

**Darkness**

For the ninth punishment, God cast Egypt into darkness for three days.

**The Plague on the Firstborn**

God was now angrier than ever. He told Moses to prepare his people for the tenth plague.

They needed to mark their doorways with the blood of a male lamb so that the angel of death knew to pass over their homes. This is where the name Passover comes from.

**The Pharaoh Does as God Asks**

The Pharaoh finally told Moses that his people were free and Moses led them out of Egypt. This was known as the Exodus.

**Passover Today**

Today, Passover is a big family celebration and lasts seven or eight days. A special meal is eaten called the Seder.



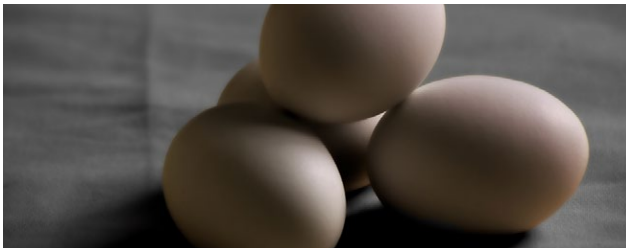
# The Seder Plate



**matzo**  
(bread without yeast)



**bone of lamb**



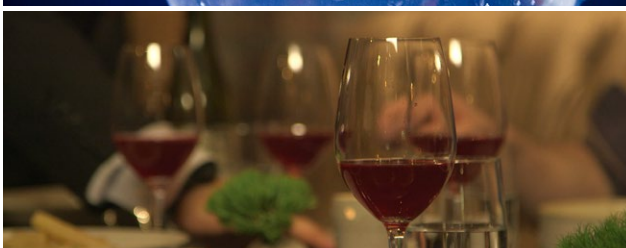
**egg**



**greenery**  
(usually lettuce)



**salt water**



**four cups of wine**



**charoset**  
(a paste made of apples, nuts,  
cinnamon and wine)



# Questions

1. Passover is a.... Tick **one**.
  - Christian celebration
  - Muslim celebration
  - Jewish celebration
  - Buddhist celebration
2. Which plague ate all the remaining crops? Tick **one**.
  - frogs
  - lice
  - flies
  - locusts
3. Find and copy one word which shows there were lots of flies flying together.  

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4. Name two things that happened in the plague of blood.  

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5. Put these events in time order. Number 1 is the event that happened first.
  - The Pharaoh told Moses that his people were free.
  - 1 God told Moses to speak to the Pharaoh.
  - God sent the worst hailstorm ever to hit Egypt.
  - God told Moses to prepare his people for the tenth plague.
6. Which foods may be eaten to celebrate Passover? Tick **two**.
  - matzo
  - pasta
  - egg
  - naan bread
7. Explain how Passover received its name.  

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# Answers

1. Passover is a.... Tick **one**.
  - Christian celebration
  - Muslim celebration
  - Jewish celebration**
  - Buddhist celebration
2. Which plague ate all the remaining crops? Tick **one**.
  - frogs
  - lice
  - flies
  - locusts**
3. Find and copy one word which shows there were lots of flies flying together.  
**swarm**
4. Name two things that happened in the plague of blood.  
**Accept the two following answers: Egypt's main river turned to blood; The fish all died.**
5. Put these events in time order. Number 1 is the event that happened first.
  - The Pharaoh told Moses that his people were free.
  - God told Moses to speak to the Pharaoh.
  - God sent the worst hailstorm ever to hit Egypt.
  - God told Moses to prepare his people for the tenth plague.
6. Which foods may be eaten to celebrate Passover? Tick **two**.
  - matzo**
  - pasta
  - egg**
  - naan bread
7. Explain how Passover received its name.  
**God instructed Moses' people to paint lamb's blood on their doors so the angel of death knew to pass over their homes and so the celebration became known as Passover.**

# Passover

Passover is an important Jewish festival. Jews celebrate the Feast of Passover to remember how Moses led the Israelites from Egypt to the Promised Land.

## The Passover Story

Many years ago, the Israelites were slaves in Egypt. God didn't like this and wanted them to be free. His voice spoke to Moses from a burning bush and told him to ask the Pharaoh to free the Israelites. The Pharaoh refused. Moses warned him that God would not be happy but the Pharaoh still did not listen.

God was angered and he unleashed ten plagues upon Egypt as a punishment.

### Blood

First of all, God turned the River Nile's water to blood. The fish all died but, still, the Pharaoh did not free the Israelites.

### Frogs

Then God sent a plague of frogs. The entire country was overrun with them. Still, the Pharaoh did not free the Israelites.

### Lice

God then turned all the country's dust into lice. They began crawling all over the people and their animals.

### Flies

The next plague was a swarm of flies. They filled people's homes and covered their food.

### Livestock

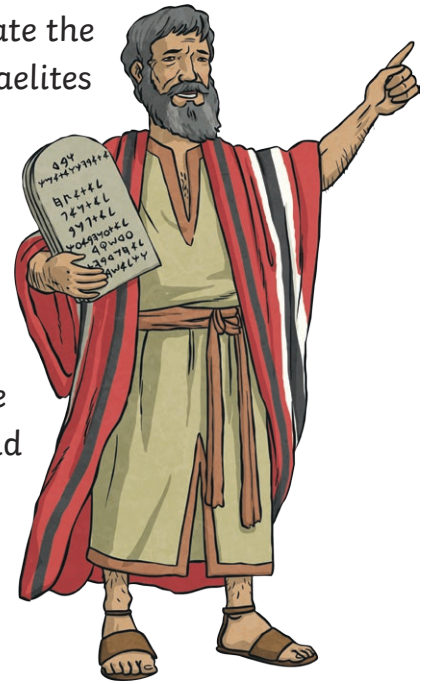
This plague killed the Egyptians' animals. Horses, donkeys, camels, cattle, sheep and goats all died.

### Boils

Then nasty boils (like painful spots) appeared on people's bodies.

### Hail

Egypt suffered the worst hailstorm ever to hit the country of Egypt. It destroyed most of the country's crops.



**Locusts**

A swarm of locusts invaded Egypt next. Any crops left standing after the hailstorm were eaten by the hungry insects.

**Darkness**

For the ninth punishment, God cast Egypt into darkness for three days. The Pharaoh still refused to release the Israelites.

**The Plague on the Firstborn**

God was now angrier than ever. He told Moses to prepare the Israelites for the tenth plague.

They needed to mark their doorways with the blood of a male lamb. Then, they were to roast the lamb and eat it with bitter herbs.

That night, the angel of death struck down every firstborn Egyptian. He knew to pass over the Israelites' homes as they had the lamb's blood on their doors. This is where the name Passover comes from.

**The Pharaoh Releases the Israelites**

In the morning, every Egyptian firstborn child was dead, including the eldest son of the Pharaoh.

The Pharaoh gave in and told Moses to lead the Israelites from Egypt. This was known as the Exodus.

**Passover Today**

Today, Passover is a big family celebration and lasts seven or eight days (depending on where the celebration is happening).

**Seder Meal**

A special meal is eaten called the Seder. The food on the plate symbolises different parts of the Passover story and is eaten in a particular order.





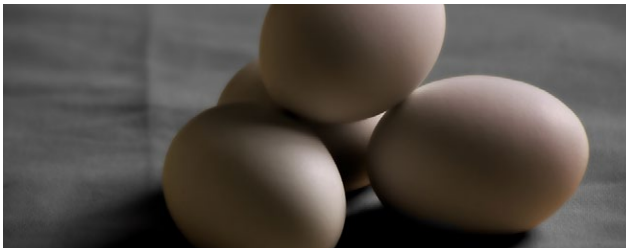
# The Seder Plate



**matzo**  
(bread without yeast)



**bone of lamb**



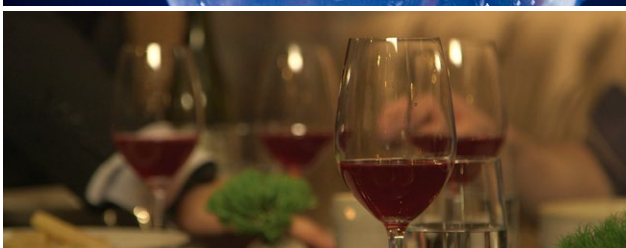
**egg**



**greenery**  
(usually lettuce)



**salt water**



**four cups of wine**



**charoset**  
(a paste made of apples, nuts,  
cinnamon and wine)



# Questions

1. Why is Passover important to Jewish people? Tick **one**.

- because they have lovely food
- because God wasn't happy
- because it remembers how Moses led the Israelites from Egypt
- to remember the Pharaoh

2. What didn't God like about the way the Pharaoh was treating the Israelites?

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3. How did God appear to Moses? Tick **one**.

- in a dream
- as a pharaoh
- as a burning bush
- as a plague

4. Put these events in time order from 1 to 5. Number 1 is the event that happened first.

- Crops were eaten by hungry insects.
- Horses, donkeys, camels, cattle, sheep and goats all died.
- Moses led the Israelites from Egypt.
- 1 The River Nile turned to blood.
- Egypt was overrun with frogs.

5. How do you think the Pharaoh was feeling after the plague on the firstborn?

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6. What is charoset made with? Tick **all that apply**.

- eggs
- apples
- cinnamon
- wine

7. How did Passover acquire its name?

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8. Explain what you think is the most important part of the Passover celebration.

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# Answers

1. Why is Passover important to Jewish people? Tick **one**.
  - because they have lovely food
  - because God wasn't happy
  - because it remembers how Moses led the Israelites from Egypt**
  - to remember the Pharaoh
  
2. What didn't God like about the way the Pharaoh was treating the Israelites?  
**God didn't like that the Pharaoh was keeping the Israelites as slaves.**
  
3. How did God appear to Moses? Tick **one**.
  - in a dream
  - as a pharaoh
  - as a burning bush**
  - as a plague
  
4. Put these events in time order from 1 to 5. Number 1 is the event that happened first.
  - 4 Crops were eaten by hungry insects.
  - 3 Horses, donkeys, camels, cattle, sheep and goats all died.
  - 5 Moses led the Israelites from Egypt.
  - 1 The River Nile turned to blood.
  - 2 Egypt was overrun with frogs.
  
5. How do you think the Pharaoh was feeling after the plague on the firstborn?  
**Accept any suitable answer, such as: The Pharaoh would have felt heartbroken/sad/devastated because his son had died.**
  
6. What is charoset made with? Tick **all that apply**.
  - eggs
  - apples**
  - cinnamon**
  - wine**
  
7. How did Passover acquire its name?  
**Passover acquired its name because the angel of death knew to pass over the Israelites' homes as they had the lamb's blood on their doors.**
  
8. Explain what you think is the most important part of the Passover celebration.  
**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the most important part of the Passover celebrations are the remembrance of the difficult time that the Israelites had to go through to achieve freedom.**

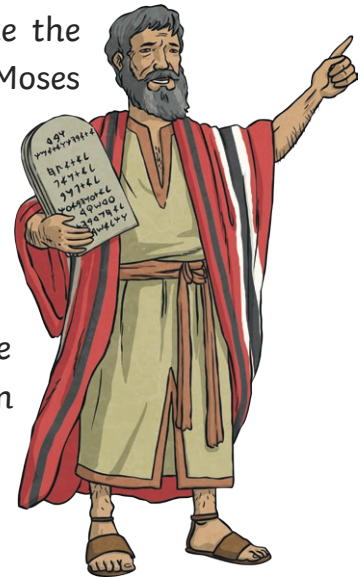


# Passover

Passover is an important Jewish festival. Jews celebrate the Feast of Passover (Pesach in Hebrew) to remember how Moses led the Israelites from Egypt to the Promised Land over 3000 years ago.

## The Passover Story

Many years ago, the Israelites were slaves of Egypt. God didn't like this and wanted them to be released. The voice of God spoke to Moses from a burning bush and told him to ask the Pharaoh to free the Israelites. The Pharaoh refused. Moses warned him that God would not be happy but the Pharaoh still did not listen.



To express his fury, God unleashed ten plagues upon Egypt as punishment.

### Blood

First of all, God turned the River Nile's stream of water to blood. The fish died and all the water in Egypt turned to blood.

### Frogs

Next, God sent a plague of frogs. The entire country was overrun with the creatures hopping through the streets and in homes. Still, the Pharaoh did not free the Israelites.

### Lice

God then turned all the country's dust into lice. They began crawling over animals and people's clothes, skin and hair.

### Flies

The next plague was a swarm of flies. They arrived as a dark cloud and filled people's homes and covered their food.

### Livestock

This plague killed the Egyptians' animals. Horses, donkeys, camels, cattle, sheep and goats all died.

### Boils

The sixth plague was an outbreak of painful boils, which sprang up all over people's bodies.

**Hail**

Then Egypt suffered the worst hailstorm the country had ever experienced. It destroyed most of the country's crops.

**Locusts**

By now, the Egyptians felt they could take no more but because the Pharaoh had not done as God asked, He sent a swarm of locusts. Any crops left standing after the hailstorm were eaten by the hungry insects.

**Darkness**

For the ninth punishment, God cast Egypt into darkness for three days. Still, incredibly, the Pharaoh did not release the Israelites.

**The Plague on the Firstborn**

God was now angrier than ever. Moses was to prepare the Israelites for what God had planned for the tenth plague.

They were required to mark their doorways with the blood of a male lamb. Then they were to roast the lamb and eat it with bitter herbs.

That night, God swept through the country striking down every firstborn Egyptian. The angel of death would know to pass over the Israelites' homes as they had the lamb's blood marked on their doors. This is where the name Passover originates.

**The Pharaoh Releases the Israelites**

In the morning, the Egyptians awoke to find all their firstborn children dead including the Pharaoh's son.

The Pharaoh was devastated. He couldn't bear any more anguish so he ordered Moses to lead the Israelites from Egypt. This was known as the Exodus.

**Passover Today**

Today, Passover is a big family celebration and lasts seven or eight days (depending on which country it is being celebrated in).

**Seder Meal**

A special meal is eaten called the Seder. The food symbolises different parts of the Passover story and is eaten in a particular order. The food is arranged on a Seder Plate.

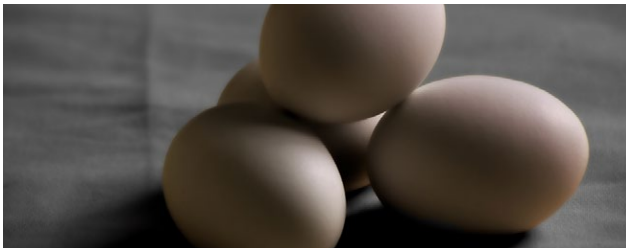
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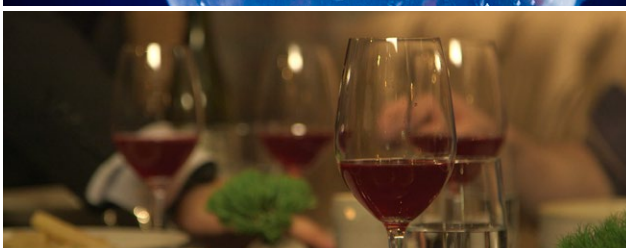
**egg**



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(a paste made of apples, nuts,  
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# Questions

1. What does **Pesach** mean?

- Pharaoh
- when Moses led the Israelites
- Feast of Passover
- River Nile

2. How do you think Moses would have felt when he heard God's voice from the burning bush?

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3. Find and copy one word that means **to be freed**.

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4. Put these events in time order. Number 1 is the event that happened first.

- Insects ate the crops left over.
- Israelites prepared for the tenth plague.
- 1 Fish died in Egypt's water.
- The weather destroyed crops.
- A dark cloud swarmed into people's homes.

5. Why do you think the Pharaoh released the Israelites in the end? Give two reasons.

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6. How is the Seder meal eaten?

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7. Fill in the missing words in the sentence.

Today, Passover is \_\_\_\_\_ and lasts \_\_\_\_\_.

8. Which plague do you think was the worst? Give reasons for your answer.

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# Answers

1. What does **Pesach** mean?

- Pharaoh
- when Moses led the Israelites
- Feast of Passover**
- River Nile

2. How do you think Moses would have felt when he heard God's voice from the burning bush?

**Accept any suitable answer, such as: I think that Moses would have been shocked/overawed/humbled/scared when he heard God's voice from the burning bush.**

3. Find and copy one word that means **to be freed**.  
**released**

4. Put these events in time order. Number 1 is the event that happened first.

- 4 Insects ate the crops left over.
- 5 Israelites prepared for the tenth plague.
- 1 Fish died in Egypt's water.
- 3 The weather destroyed crops.
- 2 A dark cloud swarmed into people's homes.

5. Why do you think the Pharaoh released the Israelites in the end? Give two reasons.

**Accept any suitable response, such as: I think the Pharaoh released the Israelites in the end because he was mourning over the loss of his son and he was scared of what God might do next.**

6. How is the Seder meal eaten?

**The Seder meal is eaten in a particular order.**

7. Fill in the missing words in the sentence.

Today, Passover is **a big family celebration** and last **seven or eight days**.

8. Which plague do you think was the worst? Give reasons for your answer.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think the plague of flies was the worst because they filled people's homes, which is disgusting, and they could have infected all the food and made the Egyptians ill.**